

REMARKS

The present Preliminary Amendment is submitted to delete the multiple dependency of the claims, thereby placing such claims in condition for examination and reducing the required PTO filing fee.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimito HORIE

By



Nils E. Pedersen

Registration No. 33,145

Attorney for Applicant

NEP/krq
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
February 24, 2004